

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>	
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT
TOPIC <u>Observations in the Area of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps</u>	
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED
DATE OF CONTENT	
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED <u>26 August 1954</u>
REFERENCES	
PAGES <u>3</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS <u>This is UNEVALUATED</u>	

1. On 31 July 1954, a cantonment southeast of Ohrdruf was occupied to capacity. More than 50 tanks, some of them of type JS-2, were identified there. Another cantonment which was also occupied to capacity and included some canvas-covered tanks was seen north of Crawinkel.

2. Between 1 and 5 August, the Hindenburg Kaserne (8442) in Plauen was still occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Training activity was held principally on Kobitzschwalde garrison training grounds. At noon on 2 August, troops and materiel from the Koenig Georg Kaserne (8443) were entrained at Oberer Bahnhof in Plauen. Twenty trucks, 3 field kitchens, 3 AT guns of about 80 mm and 20 boxcars loaded with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia were observed.

After the departure of the troops, the kaserne was only lightly occupied.¹ No occupational changes were noticed at the Kirchbach Kaserne (8441) in Plauen up to 5 August.

3. On 28 July, the garages of the Barbara Kaserne (8301) and Haupt Kaserne (8302) in Meiningen were vacant. An unusually high number of Soviet women and children were seen in the barracks yards. There was little vehicular traffic.

4. Between 13 July and 1 August, the kaserne in Jena-Loebstedt (8222) was occupied. About 50 percent of the quarters were lit at nightfall. JS-2 tanks were cleaned in the yard. During the same period, the kaserne in Jena-Zwaetzen (8221) quartered only a rear detail.

5. The following loadings were noticed at Saale Bahnhof in Jena:
At 0800 on 13 July: 10 JS-2 tanks.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

6. Prior to 21 July, the Kaserne Loebstedt (8222) in Jena quartered an estimated 2,000 men. Heavy weapons observed included individual T-34s, SU-100s, 85-mm AT guns and light mortars. The other military installations in Jena quartered only rear details prior to 21 July.

7. Between 4 and 30 July, the barracks installations in Jena seemed to be occupied as follows:

Kaserne Loebstedt (8222): About 300 soldiers and 10 to 12 tanks;

Kaserne Zwaetzen (8221): Not more than 100 soldiers of a guard detail;

The Forst Kaserne (8225): Seemed to be vacant.

8. Between 0900 and 2000 on 9 July, the AAA unit from the Prinz Eugen Kaserne (8462) was loaded onto three trains at Rudolstadt freight station. The following weapons and vehicles were observed: 18 medium AA guns, 10 searchlights and 60 trucks. About six boxcars with soldiers were coupled to each train which left toward Blankenburg.

On 10 August, the barracks installation quartered only a rear detail of not more than 150 soldiers. The six medium AA guns which had been emplaced in front of the installation prior to the departure of the troops had been removed and replaced by two other guns of undetermined caliber. Between 7 July and 10 August, the Flak Kaserne (8461) in Rudolstadt seemed to be occupied to capacity. Sentries at the gate wore red-bordered black epaulets. During the same period, the Finanzamt (Finance Office) (8463) in Rudolstadt quartered only a rear detail of not more than 200 men some of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets. Soviet dependents were quartered in one of the buildings.

9. On 29 July, the Prinz Eugen Kaserne (8462) in Rudolstadt quartered about 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and the Flak Kaserne (8461) only a rear detail. Two guns were emplaced in front of the Prinz Eugen Kaserne.

10. Between 18 and 31 July, the Prinz Louis Ferdinand Kaserne (8481) in Saalfeld quartered an estimated 500 soldiers, most of whom wore black-bordered black epaulets and about one third red-bordered black epaulets. On 18 July, 3 canvas-covered rocket launchers and, on 31 July, 8 rocket launchers, were seen in the yard. Soviet dependents were quartered in the west section of the installation. No engineer equipment was seen in the Kaserne.

11. Between 2300 and 2400 on 1 August, 36 prime movers towing a 100-mm AT gun each and 24 prime movers towing a 122-mm field howitzer each left the Reuss Kaserne (8141) in Gera. Each four prime movers were followed by 2 or 3 trucks.

Prior to 7 August, no training activity was noticed at the installation. The troops engaged in athletic exercises.⁴ Between 1 and 8 August, the Kaserne in Gera-Tinz (8142) was still occupied by about 200 men. On 4 August, 1 T-34/85 tank was seen in the yard.⁵ 6

SECRET

SECRET

- 3 -

25X1

1. Comment. It is believed that elements of the 87th Gun Arty Regt of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from the Koenig Georg Kaserne were entrained, presumably for shipment to Ohrdruf. Since the kaserne was allegedly only lightly occupied after the departure of troops, it is possible that more troops of the regiment were entrained than source observed.
2. Comment. several tanks of the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 20th Gds Mech Div were loaded on 14 and 15 July.
3. Comment. Elements of the 497th AAA Regt of the XVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps were entrained. The departure toward Blankenburg supports the assumption that the troops went to Ohrdruf. However, these elements were stationed at Ohrdruf for about one week only, since the bulk of the regiment was shipped from Rudolstadt to Wustrow on four trains on 18 July.
4. Comment. The bulk of the 308th Arty Brig departed, possibly for Ohrdruf. A minor contingent of the brigade was in Altengrabow after 29 July.
5. Comment. Since the full strength of the unit is about 400 men, it is assumed that elements of the army tank training unit stationed there were in the area of Forst Zeitz for exercises in early August. A detail of the unit with 14 tanks and SP guns practiced firing at Letzling Heath from 25 to 31 July.
6. Comment. The 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, except for the 112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt in Plauen, were at Ohrdruf troop training grounds during the period of observation. It is believed that strong elements of the 20th Gds Mech Div were in Camp Crawinkel at the same time. Although the strength estimates appear contradictory, it is believed that, as is the case with the 67th Gds Mech Regt which remained in Zeitz, elements of the division also remained in the kaserne in Jena-Loebstedt.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

NODEX

SECRET